SUMMARY OF TRADE AND TARIFF INFORMATION

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Prepared in Terms of the Tariff Schedules of the United States

NONELASTIC NARROW FABRICS

TSUS Items 347.10-347.75

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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FOREWORD

Each Summary of Trade and Tariff Information is part of a series published by the United States International Trade Commission to provide information on conditions of competition between domestic and foreign products. This report, generally covering the period 1976 through 1980, is one of many being published in the current series of summaries.

This series provides comprehensive coverage of product uses, the domestic industry, U.S. consumption, production, and trade, and the competitiveness of U.S. producers in domestic and foreign markets in each commodity area. The summaries are cast in terms of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS).

The current series will consist of approximately 250 individual reports. The Commission will issue updated statistical tables and industry status reports as appropriate for individual summaries. The overall program will run several years, ultimately covering all items of the TSUS.

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Executive Summary

The nonelastic narrow fabrics covered here are under 12 inches in width and have edges that do not ravel. Some narrow fabrics are manufactured as endproducts, while others require further processing. Most nonelastic narrow fabrics are woven or knit in specified widths for the market.

Nonelastic narrow fabrics are used in apparel, home furnishings, and industrial goods. Their chief uses are as tape and webbing products for industry or the armed forces, and as ribbon, banding, and trimming products for apparel.

The most important types of narrow fabrics made in the United States today are tapes, webbings, ribbons, woven labels, trimmings, seamless tubings, wicking, and beltings. Tapes account for about one-fourth of the domestic production of nonelastic narrow fabrics; webbings, another one-fourth; and ribbons, woven labels, and trimmings, each over one-tenth. Total nonelastic narrow fabric production in the United States exceeded $350 million in 1980.

About 250 mills employing a total of 12,000 workers made nonelastic narrow fabrics in 1980. Most of the mills were medium-sized or small, but large mills, those with over 100 workers, accounted for the majority of the production. Depending on the type of narrow fabric produced, a mill can be either labor or capital intensive; generally, ribbon, woven label, and trimming mills are labor intensive, while most tape and webbing mills are capital intensive.

Less than 10 percent of U.S. production of nonelastic narrow fabrics is exported, and about 5 or 6 percent of the consumption is imported. U.S. exports reached a record 25 million pounds, valued at $31 million, in 1980, while imports amounted to 6 million pounds, valued at $19 million in 1980. Exports were chiefly to Canada and Mexico, which together accounted for half of the quantity, 13 million pounds, and one-third of the value, $11 million, in 1980. Imports came principally from Hong Kong and Japan, which together furnished 2 million pounds, valued at $6 million, in 1980, or about a third of the total. Exports have been consistently higher than imports and reflect foreign demand for quality U.S. products such as tapes, seamless tubings, and webbings.

Market conditions for nonelastic narrow fabrics are usually the same throughout the world. Quick filling of orders, rapid delivery time, and customer service are important to narrow fabric customers. These conditions are best fulfilled by a domestic industry, and so far, only a small part of world production enters international trade channels.

Commodity	TSUS item No.
Narrow fabrics:	
Of vegetable fibers:	
Pile ribbons, of cotton	347.10
Seamless tubings, except wicking:	
Of cotton	347.15
Other	347.20
Wicking:	
Of cotton	347.26
Other	347.28
Webbing, of jute	347.30
Other:	
Of cotton	347.33
Other	347.35
Of wool	347.40
Of silk:	
Pile ribbons	347.45
Other	347.50
Of man-made fibers:	
Ribbons:	
Pile	347.55
Other	347.60
Seamless tubings	347.65
Other:	
Of glass:	
Not colored	347.68
Colored	347.69
Other	347.70
Of metalized yarns	347.72
Other	347.75

Note.--For the statutory description, see excerpt from the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated (1982) in app. A. A concordance of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS) items included in this summary with related categories in other production, export, and import nomenclatures is found in app. B.

Definition and classification

Narrow fabrics in the TSUS are defined as woven 1/ or knit 2/ fabrics, not over 12 inches in width, which have fast edges. 3/ They include bias

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1/ Weaving is the interlacing of two sets of yarns at right angles.

2/ Knitting is the construction of fabric by means of needles which make the yarns form a series of connecting loops.

3/ Fabrics with fast edges are defined in the TSUS as having both edges made or treated to prevent the fabric from unraveling by means of selvages (finished edges on a fabric), stitching, gumming, fusing (solidifying of fabric edges with heat), or simple hemming.

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binding, consisting of strips cut on a bias 1/ from woven or knit fabrics and folded and creased on the edges, and seamless woven or knit tubings which, when flattened, are not over 12 inches in width.

The narrow fabrics covered here do not include braided narrow fabrics (TSUS item Nos. 348.00-348.05) 2/ and elastic fabrics (TSUS item Nos. 349.10-349.30) 2/ in accordance with headnote 3, Part 4, subpart A, schedule 3 of the TSUS. 3/

Subpart A, which covers narrow fabrics, also excludes certain narrow fabrics classifiable in Part 4, subpart B or C, schedule 3, of the TSUS (see headnote 1 (Part 4, subpart A, schedule 3)). These excluded narrow fabrics 2/, with their TSUS numbers, are shown in the following tabulation:

Description	TSUS item Nos.
Veiling	350.00
Lace	351.05 - 351.90
Netting	352.10 - 352.80
Ornamented fabrics	353.50
Nonwoven fabrics, including felt	355.02 - 355.25
Coated, filled, laminated, and bonded fabrics	355.50 - 356.45
Certain toweling	356.70
Certain padding	356.80
Certain tapestry and upholstery fabrics	357.05 - 357.15
Bolting cloths	357.25 - 357.35
Stencilling cloths	357.40 - 357.45
Tucked fabrics	357.60
Certain trimmings	357.70
Fabrics for use in pneumatic tires	357.80
Hose for conducting gases or liquids	357.90 - 357.96
Machine belting	358.02 - 358.16
Machine clothing	358.24 - 358.60

Also excluded are certain narrow fabrics classified in other parts of schedule 3 of the TSUS such as cotton ladder tapes 2/ in item 385.40, individually cut labels in items 385.60-385.63, 2/ and zipper tapes which have the cord edging sewn on instead of woven (Part 7, subpart B, schedule 3). 4/

End uses

The principal end uses of the chief narrow fabrics produced today are shown in the following tabulation:

1/ A bias is a line cutting diagonally across the grain of a fabric.

2/ See separate summaries for a more detailed description of these products.

3/ This headnote reads: "Any article described in more than one superior heading of this subpart is classifiable under the last such heading in which it is described."

4/ See separate summary for a more detailed description of this product.

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Type	End use
Bandings	Hat bands, decoration on apparel, revolving cylinders for machinery.
Beltings (nonmachinery)	Apparel belts, book binders, hat linings, safety belts, seat belts.
Bindings	Piping on blankets and garments, upholstery, carpets.
Labels, woven	Apparel and furnishings.
Ribbons	Typewriter and other machine ribbons, hair ribbons, sashes, millinery, apparel decoration, award ribbons.
Strapping	Package tying, saddle girths, boot straps, parachute harness.
Tapes	Tape measures, zipper tapes, insulation tape, friction tape, closure tapes, venetian blinds, apparel.
Toweling	Roller towels, other home furnishings.
Trimmings	Home sewing, apparel, home furnishings.
Tubings, seamless	Bagging, casings, wire insulation, medical hosiery.
Webbings	Gun slings, suspenders, shoulder straps, brake lining, fan belts, footwear, military uses, apparel, home furnishings including carpet webbing.
Wicking	Lamps, stoves, candles, kerosene lanterns.

Physical properties

Construction of the narrow fabrics listed above can be varied so as to incorporate desired physical properties to meet the needs of their intended end use in apparel, home furnishings, or industrial products.

Woven labels, ribbons, and apparel trimmings can be given three-dimensional effects to relay an appearance of luxury and fancy design in apparel. Embroidered effects are created by narrow fabric producers in ribbons, trimmings, bandings, and bindings to convey distinct adornment in many kinds of apparel.

Webbings used in home furnishings, especially upholstery, have physical properties such as high tensile strength and great elongation (stretch in a lengthwise direction). Seamless tubings used in home furnishings are noted for their high extensibility (stretch in a breadthwise direction).

In industrial products, narrow fabric belting offers low bulk, energy absorption (seat belts), and warp (lengthwise) strength. Webbings contribute high tensile strength and elongation in a limited space (brake lining, fan belts). Seamless tubings are known for their high extensibility (bagging, wire insulation). And typewriter and computer ribbon fabrics have liquid

absorbency in addition to an ability to make an impression when struck on a flat surface.

Manufacturing processes and materials used

Narrow fabrics may be woven on narrow looms, 1/ knit on flat or circular knitting machines, or slit (such as bias binding or ribbons with fused edges) from broadwoven or wide knit fabrics. 2/ Most of the nonelastic narrow fabrics produced in the United States consist of ribbons, woven labels, tapes, webbings, beltings, trimmings, seamless tubings, and wicking. All the above-listed fabrics can be made on narrow looms, but ribbons, woven labels, and tapes can also be manufactured on broad looms and cut into standard narrow widths.

A narrow loom consists of one frame from 12 to 100 inches wide. Within the frame are a series of little looms, all linked together, and each possessing its own shuttle 3/ and warp. 4/ Several sets of warp yarns may be fed from the bottom or from the back of the loom frame to make various narrow fabrics, side by side. In narrow fabrics made on broad looms, hot wires or knives are spaced evenly in front of the loom frame; these devices slit the fabric after it has been woven.

Tapes and webbings are the most important narrow fabrics made in the United States today. Tapes are usually produced with dobby 5/ attachments to the loom; they are usually woven in a broken twill weave, but they can also be made in plain, twill, and satin weaves. Webbings are normally made with special warp yarns in various weaves; they are usually heavier than woven tapes.

Ribbons, both woven-edge and cut-edge types, follow tapes and webbings in importance in the United States. They are generally made in plain, satin, twill, rib, or pile (pile ribbons) weaves. Ribbon weavers use all sorts of attachments to achieve fancy effects. These include dobbies and jacquards 6/ and a mixture of other devices which control the movement of the yarns in the weaving process. Cut-edge ribbons are made by cutting wide fabrics of manmade fibers made on a broad loom. The knife or wire is heated and instantly fuses the edge to make it fast and ravelproof. Pile ribbons are made from two fabrics actually woven together; the two fabrics are separated later by

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1/ A loom is a machine for weaving cloth.

2/ Broadwoven or wide knit fabrics are generally over 12 inches in width.

3/ The shuttle produces the filling, or breadthwise yarn, in a woven fabric. It consists generally of a shaped piece of wood with a metal tip which carries the yarn from one side of the fabric to the other.

4/ The warp consists of yarn that runs lengthwise in a fabric. It is generally fed from the bottom of the loom and crisscrosses the filling yarn formed by the shuttle.

5/ A dobby is a mechanical attachment which makes small geometrical figures in the fabric during the weaving process.

6/ A jacquard is a pattern-making mechanism using cards in which holes are punched to control the position and movement of various groups of warp yarns in the loom during the weaving process.

cutting and then cut again into narrow strips. Typewriter and machine ribbons are cut from very closely woven fabrics made on broad looms; before they are slit, these precision fabrics are made in a plain weave and given a carefully controlled finishing process using cleaning solutions similar to laundry detergents.

Woven labels rank below tapes, webbings, and ribbons in importance in U.S. production. Most woven labels are made with a satin weave. Jacquard attachments are essential in manufacturing woven labels on either narrow or broad looms. Much of the stylistic effects in woven labels are created through control of the filling yarns. In the United States, most woven labels are now being produced on broad looms; the broadwoven fabric is cut by hot wires into standard label widths immediately after it is woven.

The remaining nonelastic narrow fabrics, including belting, trimmings, and seamless tubing, are grouped together in U.S. official production statistics. In total value, they match approximately the output of either ribbons or woven labels. Industrial beltings is usually given sizing or impregnated with heat-resistant or abrasion-resistant materials. 1/ Nonindustrial-type beltings, such as apparel belts, are similarly constructed but are enhanced generally with color or decoration and may be woven, knit, or crocheted. Trimmings are accessories used for making and ornamenting of apparel and home furnishings; their base fabrics, usually of plain weave construction, are embellished with extra fillings produced with jacquard, dobby, or other ingenious loom attachments. Some trimmings are also knit or crocheted. Seamless tubings can be woven or knit in a tubular form with no seams; those woven consist of two fabrics woven simultaneously with the selvages (edges) being interlocked as one fabric. Wicking is made on the same narrow looms as tapes; this fabric can be constructed in plain or twill weave and must have liquid-absorbing qualities.

The yarns used in the production of narrow fabrics are composed of natural or manmade fibers. The most important yarns used are spun cotton, filament nylon, filament rayon and acetate, filament saran and olefin, filament glass, and spun rayon.

Customs Treatment

U.S. customs treatment

The following table shows the current rates of duty under column 1, which apply to narrow fabrics imported from those countries having most-favored-nation status future column 1 rates of duty negotiated under the most recent Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN); column 2 rates of duty which apply to imports from countries designated by the President as being under Communist domination or control; and notations concerning the eligibility for duty-free

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1/ See separate summary on beltings and belts.

Narrow fabrics: U.S. rates of duty, present and negotiated, by TSUS items

TSUS item No.	Description	Present col. 1 rate of duty 1/	Negotiated col. 1 rate of duty 2/	Col. 2 rate of duty 3/	GSP eligibility
	Narrow fabrics:				
	Of vegetable fibers:				
347.10	Pile ribbons, of cotton.	18% ad val.	8.2% ad val.	62.5% ad val.	No.
	Seamless tubings, except wicking:				
347.15	Of cotton	18% ad val.	8.2% ad val.	35% ad val.	No.
347.20	Other	6.6% ad val.	4.7% ad val.	35% ad val.	Yes.
	Wicking:				
347.26	Of cotton	9.3% ad val.	5.8% ad val.	30% ad val.	No.
347.28	Other	9.3% ad val.	5.8% ad val.	30% ad val.	Yes.
347.30	Webbing, of jute.	11% ad val.	5.6% ad val.	35% ad val.	Yes.
	Other:				
347.33	Of cotton	12.8% ad val.	10% ad val.	35% ad val.	No.
347.35	Other	6.6% ad val.	4.7% ad val.	35% ad val.	Yes.
347.40	Of wool	31¢ per lb + 9.6% ad val.	7.5% ad val.	59% ad val.	No.
	Of silk:				
347.45	Of ribbons	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	60% ad val.	No.
347.50	Other	6.8% ad val.	3% ad val.	65% ad val.	No.
	Of manmade fibers:				
	Ribbons:				
347.55	Pile	12¢ per lb + 11% ad val.	9.5% ad val.	68.5% val.	No.
347.60	Other	10¢ per lb + 9.8% ad val.	9% ad val.	76.5% ad val.	No.
347.65	Seamless tubings.	10¢ per lb + 10.5% ad val.	7% ad val.	78% ad val.	No.

See footnotes at end of table.

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Narrow fabrics: U.S. rates of duty, present and negotiated, by TSUS items--Continued

TSUS item No.	Description	Present col. 1 rate of duty 1/	Negotiated col. 1 rate of duty 2/	Col. 2 rate of duty	GSP eligibility
	Narrow fabrics--Con.				
	Other:				
	Of glass:				
347.68	Not colored--	8.8% ad val.	6% ad val.	50% ad val.	No.
347.69	Colored------	12.1% ad val.	7.2% ad val.	60% ad val.	No.
347.70	Other----------	10¢ per lb + 9.1% ad val.	7% ad val.	84% ad val.	No.
347.72	Of metallized yarns.	5.7% ad val.	4.2% ad val.	45% ad val.	Yes.
347.75	Other----------	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	40% ad val.	Yes.

1/ Effective Jan. 1, 1982.

2/ Rate negotiated under the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (Tokyo round), to be achieved through 6 annual staged reductions, commencing Jan. 1, 1982.

treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). 1/ Pre-MTN rates and the MTN staged rates of duty can be found in appendix A (p. 33).

The ad valorem equivalent of t . compound rates applicable to imports under item 347.40 (wool narrow fabrics) 2/ and items 347.55, 347.60, 347.65, and 347.70 (manmade-fiber narrow fabrics) since 1975 are shown in the following table.

1/ The GSP, under Title V of the Trade Act of 1974, provides duty-free treatment for specified eligible articles imported directly from designated beneficiary developing countries. The GSP program, implemented by Executive Order No. 11888 of Nov. 24, 1975, applies to merchandise imported on or after Jan. 1, 1976, and is scheduled to remain in effect until Jan. 4, 1985, unless modified by the President or terminated.

2/ Item 347.40 is subject to headnote 6, schedule 3 of the TSUS, which requires that when the rate of duty is changed on raw wool under TSUS item 306.31, then the portion of the rate on TSUS item 347.40 (and other wool items), which is compensatory for raw wool, should be changed proportionately.

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Year	TSUS item				
	347.40	347.55	347.60	347.65	347.70
1976	16.6	12.1	11.7	13.4	13.3
1977	15.0	12.1	11.9	13.2	12.2
1978	14.4	12.1	11.6	12.9	12.2
1979	14.9	11.9	11.4	12.4	11.5
1980	13.9	11.8	11.1	14.1	11.1

The tabulation shows that the ad valorem equivalents for imports under most of the items have decreased. As the price goes up, the specific part of the rates (37.5 cents for 347.40, 15 cents for 347.55, and 12 cents each for 347.60, 347.65, and 347.70) becomes a smaller percentage factor.

Nontariff barriers.--The United States is a party to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (Multifiber Arrangement (MFA)), which provides a mechanism for limiting the level of trade of most textile and apparel articles of cotton, wool, and manmade fibers. The MFA is a multilateral agreement negotiated under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by representatives of over 50 governments. The MFA became effective January 1, 1974, for 4 years and has been extended through December 1986. It provides the basis for bilateral textile trade agreements between countries and attempts to control market disruption in world textile trade. The MFA was established to expand world trade in textiles with particular regard to the economic needs of developing countries which are exporters, while at the same time preventing disruption of the markets of the importing countries.

Imports of narrow fabrics of cotton (TSUS items 347.10, 347.15, 347.26, and 347.33), wool (TSUS item 347.40), and manmade fibers (TSUS items 347.55, 347.60, 347.65, 347.68, 347.69, and 347.70) are subject to various restraints (either as specific limitations or in some cases consultations when predetermined import levels are reached) under the provisions of bilateral agreements negotiated by the United States with 23 foreign countries (as of 1981). 1/ They are included in U.S. MFA categories 369 (other cotton manufactures), 469 (other wool manufactures), and 627 (specialty fabrics of manmade fibers). Limitations and consultation levels are applicable as set out in each bilateral agreement.

Statutory investigations.--Title II, Chapters 2 and 3, of the Trade Act of 1974 2/ provide for adjustment assistance for workers displaced by increased imports and for firms adversely affected by imports. Section 221 of

1/ Brazil, Peoples Republic of China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Yugoslavia.

2/ 19 U.S.C. 2271, et. seq.

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Chapter 2 provides for investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor as to whether workers are eligible for adjustment assistance, and section 251 of Chapter 3 provides for investigation by the U.S. Department of Commerce as to whether a firm is eligible for adjustment assistance.

As of the end of 1980, there had been 15 Section 221 investigations involving firms manufacturing narrow fabrics. As a result about 600 workers received adjustment assistance from the Department of Labor, while almost 700 workers were denied adjustment assistance.

As of June 1981, there had been three Section 251 investigations resulting from petitions by firms producing narrow fabrics. One firm, whose principal product was apparel trimmings, was certified by the U.S. Department of Commerce as eligible to receive adjustment assistance. The other two petitions were withdrawn.

Foreign customs treatment

Tariff treatment in major U.S. markets.--With the principal exception of the United States and Canada, the Customs Cooperation Council Nomenclature (CCCN) is used as the basis for most countries' tariff classifications. Narrow fabrics are classified in chapter 58 of the CCCN.

The following tabulation shows the present rates of duty and the rates offered under the MTN by certain major export markets for U.S. narrow fabrics--Canada, Mexico, Venezuela, and the European Community (EC). 1/

1/ Hong Kong, a major U.S. market not listed here, is a free port and does not maintain a general tariff.

Market	Description	Present rate of duty 1/	Negotiated rate of duty 2/
Canada	Woven fabrics not exceeding 12 inches in width.	25% ad val.	3/
Mexico	Narrow woven fabrics and narrow fabrics.	Free to 9.00 pesos 4/ per kg + 25-70% ad val.	3/
	Woven labels	9.00 pesos per kg + 62% ad val.	3/
Venezuela	Narrow woven fabrics and narrow fabrics, and woven labels.	15.00 bolivars 5/ per kg + 150% ad val.	3/
European Community	Narrow woven fabrics and narrow fabrics.	7-14% ad val.	4.9-7.5% ad val. 6/
	Woven labels	10% ad val.	6.2% ad val. 6/

1/ Current (1982) duty rates applicable to imports from the United States.
2/ Rates negotiated in the Tokyo round of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations.
3/ Reduced rates were not offered by these countries on the narrow fabrics covered here.
4/ The Mexican peso is equivalent to about 8 U.S. cents (1982).
5/ The Venezuelan bolivar is equivalent to about 23.2 U.S. cents (1982).
6/ Initially effective Jan. 1, 1982.

Nontariff barriers.--The major foreign markets for U.S. narrow fabrics utilize certain barriers which can deter imports. They regulate imports of fabrics and other products through some of the methods shown in the following tabulation:

Canada	Invoicing regulations, fixed valuation charges.
Mexico	Import licensing requirements, minimum valuation charges, other surcharges and taxes.
Venezuela	Shipment surtaxes, documentation requirements.
Netherlands	Rules of origin.
West Germany	Rules of origin.
United Kingdom	Rules of origin.

Rules-of-origin requirements are used by various countries in Europe. Since April 1973, trade agreements between the European Free Trade Association and the EC have provided preferential tariff treatment only to goods wholly produced or, if imported, sufficiently processed within the area. These

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rules-of-origin requirements have discouraged U.S. exports of some intermediate products to European markets.

U.S. Industry

Basic data and information

Almost all narrow fabric mills purchase raw materials (yarns), produce their own fabric, and sell their finished products. They produce two general types of narrow fabrics--woven and knit. The same mill will not normally produce both types of fabric. Knitted fabrics constituted about 10 percent of the nonelastic narrow fabrics, excluding braided types, produced in the United States.

The mills producing the narrow fabrics covered in this summary numbered about 250 in 1980, representing a drop of 25 compared with the number in 1972. Total employment declined from about 16,000 in 1972 to 12,000 in 1980. The decline in number of mills and employment was caused by some mills going out of business and by the increasing efficiency of the mills which presently require less workers than 10 years ago. Over two-thirds were medium-sized or small mills; however, the large mills, generally those with over 100 workers, accounted for most of the U.S. production in 1980. Almost all the mills are located in States along the Atlantic seaboard, especially New York, Rhode Island, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

Whether a narrow fabric mill is capital or labor intensive depends on the type of product being made. Certain tape mills have labor costs that do not exceed 25 percent of production costs, while a woven label or belting mill may have labor costs that run as high as 60 or 70 percent. In general, mills making ribbons, woven labels, beltings, and trimmings have a high percentage of labor costs, but mills manufacturing most tapes, webbings, seamless tubings, and wicking have lower labor costs. The labor costs in these mills vary because more workers are needed to run fancy or short-run goods but less are required for simple, long-run fabrics. The skill of the workers varies with the type of narrow fabric produced. Certain tape, belting, and seamless tubing mills need workers with a high degree of mechanical skill, but ribbon, webbing, and wicking mills can usually operate with workers of minimum skill. Industry and Department of Commerce labor productivity estimates indicate that an average narrow fabric mill today requires one-fourth fewer workers to produce the same output as in 1972.

Raw materials for the narrow fabric mill consist of yarns which are obtained from manmade-fiber producers or from spinning and throwing 1/ mills that produce these yarns for sale. Capital equipment, consisting chiefly of narrow fabric looms, broadlooms, and knitting machinery, are purchased both domestically and from foreign countries. Technology moves slowly in narrow fabric mills since most manufactured products have traditional uses in specific areas. In recent years, however, some plants have installed faster equipment for standard heavy-use products such as tapes, woven labels, and webbings. Funds to finance purchases of yarn and machinery and to pay workers

1/ A mill that combines and twists yarns.

are usually acquired from several sources such as stockholders' invested capital, long- and short-term borrowing from banks, or from the firm's own account.

Financial information

The latest official financial data, as compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, for Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Industry 2241, Narrow Fabric Mills, was published for 1977. This industry, in addition to the woven nonelastic and knit narrow fabrics covered in this summary, includes woven elastic narrow fabrics, braided narrow fabrics, and covered rubber thread. Certain financial data for Industry 2241 for 1977 and equivalent estimates, obtained chiefly from trade and Department of Commerce sources, for 1980 are shown in the following tabulation (in millions of dollars):

Item	1977	1980
Payroll of all employees	172	180
Value added by manufacture	351	470
Cost of materials	334	465
Value of shipments	683	950
New capital expenditures	16	17
End-of-year inventories	109	115

The narrow fabric mills covered in this summary accounted for about two-thirds of the value of all items, except one, listed above. For new capital expenditures, they accounted for about three-fourths of the value.

Production costs in a narrow fabric mill can be divided generally into raw materials, labor, and overhead, and these vary according to the type of fabric made. Typical shares of these costs provided by individual producers for four types of narrow fabrics are shown on the following page (in percent):

Type	Raw materials	Labor	Overhead
Belting	10	70	20
Labels, woven	10	60-65	25-30
Tapes	50	25	25
Trimmings	25-30	40	30-35

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The other major types of narrow fabrics produced in the United States usually have production costs similar to the four shown above, that is--ribbons have costs similar to trimmings, seamless tubings to belting, and webbings and wicking to tapes.

Profit data for narrow fabric mills are not available, but net after-tax profits for firms making textile products, which would include these mills, have usually averaged less than 3 percent of annual sales since 1974. Industry sources indicate that narrow fabric mills have generally followed the profit percentage of the textile mill products industry in recent years.

Pricing

Most narrow fabrics produced in the United States are priced according to their width in cents per linear yard. Ribbons, webbings, trimmings, wickings, and most tapes are quoted in this way. However, closure tapes 1/, which have established lengths and widths, are sold by specified price per number of units. Woven labels are marketed in dollars per 1,000 labels, and beltings and seamless tubings, in cents per piece according to length and width. The most popular quotation in woven labels is a 7/8-inch width sold in 1,000 units; in trimmings, it is a 1/2-inch width sold in cents per yard; and in tape closures, it is a 3/4-inch width sold in 1,000 units. Almost all prices are determined by negotiation directly between narrow fabric producer and customer. However, some narrow fabrics with market standards, such as ribbons and closure tapes, are offered for sale in the open market.

Marketing

Narrow fabrics are generally marketed in five consuming areas: apparel, industrial products, home furnishings, home sewing, and military products. Most are usually sold directly by the manufacturer to the fabricator, but some are sold at retail to the end user. Generally, narrow fabric sales are accomplished without special merchandising efforts and little advertising on the part of the manufacturer; however, certain narrow fabrics, such as ribbons and closure tapes, are promoted vigorously at trade and consumer levels.

U.S. Market

Domestic market profile

Consumers.--The most important users of narrow fabrics in the United States are, first, apparel manufacturers; second, industrial manufacturers; third, military contractors; fourth, home-furnishing manufacturers; and fifth, home sewing consumers.

An apparel manufacturer may be either (1) a manufacturer that purchases narrow fabrics, designs apparel, cuts and sews the garment, and sells the

1/ A strip of material containing projecting ends used for closing garments instead of buttons or zippers.

finished product; or (2) a contractor that manufactures apparel for another firm but does not buy the fabric or sell the finished garments. Over 5,000 establishments, designated as apparel manufacturers, consume narrow fabrics; they are located mainly in the Middle Atlantic States, especially New York and Pennsylvania, and in the South Atlantic States. Most apparel manufacturers incorporate narrow fabrics, such as woven labels, zipper tapes, webbings, and bandings, 1/ into the garment itself. Others attach narrow fabrics to the garments, generally for decorative purposes; these manufacturers use decorative bandings, apparel belting, garment piping, ribbon sashes, and ornamental trimmings.

The industrial manufacturer may be (1) a manufacturer that coats, impregnates, or laminates narrow fabrics, or combines them with other materials for specific end uses; (2) a manufacturer that uses narrow fabrics in industrial processing operations equipment, including filtration, rubber processing, textile finishing, and buffing and polishing operations; or (3) a manufacturer who incorporates narrow fabrics directly into marine equipment, outdoor products, sporting goods, furniture, shoes, and similar applications. Over 500 establishments, identified as industrial manufacturers, consume narrow fabrics; they are located mainly in the Middle Atlantic States, especially New York and New Jersey. A coater, impregnator, laminator, or similar manufacturer, uses bandings, beltings, ribbons, strappings, tapes, webbings, and wickings. An industrial processor uses beltings, bandings, and webbings. Other industrial manufacturers, who incorporate narrow fabrics directly into their products, use beltings, strappings, tapes, seamless tubings, webbings, and wickings.

The products made from narrow fabrics required by the U.S. armed forces are generally manufactured by firms whose principal business is the production and sale of the particular product for nonmilitary uses. A firm will bid on a military contract if the specified product fits into its overall manufacturing and marketing schedule at an opportune time. Firms that bid on the manufacture of military contract products generally use all types of narrow fabrics, but especially tapes and webbings.

The home-furnishing manufacturer may be (1) a carpet or rug manufacturer, (2) a curtain, drapery, or upholstery manufacturer, or (3) a housefurnishing manufacturer that makes blankets, bedspreads, towels, and other items for the home, using narrow fabrics. About 300 establishments, specified as home-furnishing manufacturers or carpet or rug mills, consume narrow fabrics; they are located mainly in the Middle Atlantic and South Atlantic States. Carpet and rug mills generally use bindings, tapes, trimmings, and webbings. Curtain, drapery, and upholstery manufacturers normally consume bindings, tapes, trimmings, and webbings. And housefurnishing manufacturers may use all kinds of narrow fabrics, but they work chiefly with tapes, webbings, and wickings.

Some narrow fabrics are sold as end products for home sewing. The types of narrow fabrics bought at retail generally include bandings, beltings, bindings, ribbons, tapes, trimmings, and webbings. The trimming or ribbon

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1/ A banding is a strip of fabric used for decoration, tying articles, or revolving cylinders on machinery.

manufacturers are normally the only groups that cater directly to the home sewing market.

Market demand factors.--There are four major factors influencing demand for narrow fabrics: quality, price, delivery time, and service to the customer. Attention to quality produces narrow fabrics that are long lasting and attractive; a reasonable price permits narrow fabrics to become standardized for many uses and competitive with substitutable products; dependability of scheduled delivery times permits regular usage of narrow fabrics, and rapid delivery options encourage usage when narrow fabrics demand fluctuates; and lastly, good service by the producer assures narrow fabric consumers proper application of these fabrics in end products.

Certain narrow fabrics, however, have additional market demand factors. Name recognition is important in closure tapes, zipper tapes, machine ribbons, and friction tapes. Fashion requirements affect the marketing of some bandings, ribbons, and trimmings. Government requirements and specifications can expand or contract market demand quickly for beltings, ribbons, tapes, and webbings. Product innovations can create greater consumer interest in ribbons, strappings, tapes, seamless tubings, and webbings.

Competitive market factors.--Besides the usual competitive factors among producers of like products, narrow fabric producers compete among themselves relative to cut-edge versus woven-edge products, woven versus knit narrow fabrics, and one fabric application versus another, such as bandings or ribbons for millinery, ribbons or trimmings for apparel, woven or printed labels for garments, and strappings or tapes for packaging.

Internationally, competition is among like products and involves all narrow fabrics. Global international trade in narrow fabrics in recent years has been small but growing, especially in closure tapes, ribbons, and trimmings. U.S. narrow fabric imports are limited because (1) domestic fabrics are priced competitively compared with imports; (2) a variety of domestic fabrics are readily available to meet demand; (3) a quality product and service is available domestically; (4) short runs can be obtained domestically; and (5) the domestic producer generally furnishes reliable and rapid delivery. Four of these five factors offer special advantages to certain narrow fabrics produced domestically. A competitive price is especially important in woven labels, trimmings, and tapes; variety is necessary in ribbons, tapes, and trimmings; short runs are important in tape closures, trimmings, and wicking; and quick delivery is demanded for trimmings, certain tapes, and other specific narrow fabric uses.

U.S. consumption

The value of U.S. consumption of nonelastic narrow fabrics increased annually, from $246 million in 1976 to $352 million in 1979, and then declined slightly to $346 million in 1980 (app. C, table 1). During 1976-80, imports supplied between 5 and 6 percent of annual consumption. In this period, the value of annual imports averaged about 5 percent of U.S. producers' shipments.

U.S. shipments

U.S. producers' shipments of nonelastic narrow fabrics increased annually, from $263.6 million in 1976 to $360.9 million in 1979, but declined slightly to $357.6 million in 1980. Most types of narrow fabrics included here showed the same trend during 1976-80 as the total except woven-edge ribbons, woven labels, and knit narrow fabrics, which peaked in 1980 at $46.7 million, $51.9 million, and $36.8 million, respectively (app. C, table 2). According to official statistics reported by the Bureau of the Census for 1980, tapes accounted for the highest value, at $87.4 million; webbings were second at $79.6 million; and woven labels and woven-edge ribbons ranked third and fourth, respectively, in the same year. None of the narrow fabric categories reported by the Bureau of the Census showed consistent annual declines during 1976-80, and all categories reached highest value levels for the period in 1979 or 1980 (table 2).

Manufacturers' inventories are available only for SIC Industry 2241 which, besides nonelastic narrow fabrics, includes: elastic narrow fabrics, braided narrow fabrics, and covered rubber thread. The end-of-year inventories for this group, approximately two-thirds of which is accounted for by the products in this summary, were $109.3 million in 1977 and estimated at $115 million in 1980. These inventories were, respectively, about 16 percent of the value of shipments in 1977 and about 12 percent in 1980. The decline in the ratio of inventories to producers' shipments is attributed chiefly to the industry producing more in 1980 for confirmed orders and less for stock.

U.S. imports

All the important narrow fabrics produced in the United States are also imported. Ribbons, including pile, machine, decorative, and apparel types, constitute over one-third of the value of imports and are the chief narrow fabrics imported in terms of value. Tapes, webbings, and trimmings, in that order, follow ribbons in importance, and together account for almost half of the value of imports. Table 3 (app. C) indicates a wide range in the average unit value of narrow fabrics with unit values from under $1 a pound for jute webbing to over $20 a pound for cotton pile ribbons.

The quantity of U.S. imports of the nonelastic narrow fabrics covered here declined during 1976-80 (tables 3 and 4). Imports totalled 7.5 million pounds in 1976 and 5.9 million pounds in 1980. However, the value of imports increased from $13.3 million in 1976 to an average of $19.8 million in 1979 and 1980. This increase in value is attributed to greater importation of more expensive narrow fabrics such as fancy ribbons and natural fiber wicking in 1979 and 1980 than in 1976 (table 3). The decline in the quantity of imports was caused by (1) increases in the prices of the imports relative to domestic production; (2) reduced demand for imported tapes, webbings, and trimmings which can be obtained more easily and quickly from domestic sources; and (3) enhanced capability of domestic firms to produce certain narrow fabrics, such as trimmings and some ribbons and tapes, which previously were obtained only from import sources.

Hong Kong and Japan were the principal suppliers of the imports during 1976-80 in terms of value (app. C, table 4). Together they supplied over half

of the imports in 1976, 1977, and 1978, almost half in 1979, but only about one-third in 1980. During the latter part of the period, Switzerland, France, West Germany, the United Kingdom, and Italy increased their shares with their relatively higher valued narrow fabrics. In 1980, Hong Kong was the chief supplier of cotton ribbons, tapes, webbings, and trimmings; Japan was the largest exporter of wickings, typewriter and machine ribbons, cotton zipper tapes, and silk narrow fabrics, especially ribbons; Switzerland was the most important supplier of manmade-fiber pile ribbons; France was the largest supplier of manmade-fiber tapes, webbings, and trimmings; and Italy was the chief exporter of cotton pile ribbons and wool narrow fabrics, especially trimmings and bandings for apparel.

TSUS items 347.20, 347.28, 347.30, 347.35, 347.72, and 347.75 are eligible for duty-free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). Total duty-free imports under GSP amounted to $877,000 in 1980, the peak year since the granting of GSP to these products. Most of this total was accounted for by jute webbing (TSUS item 347.30) imported from India and Bangladesh. The imports given GSP treatment accounted for $812,000 of the $1,328,000 reported for TSUS item 347.30 in 1980. GSP also accounted for $30,000 of the $37,000 imported in TSUS item 347.75 in 1980.

U.S. imports of nonelastic narrow fabrics are handled by an independent trading company or the consuming manufacturer, which usually contracts an importing agent to do the importing. The trading companies import narrow fabrics and sell them to the consumers; in addition, they may import narrow fabrics on contract for a consuming manufacturer. The importing agent, or the trading company representing the consuming manufacturer, purchases the narrow fabrics directly from the foreign source, handles all the importing requirements, and arranges for their delivery directly to the consuming manufacturer's plant.

Domestic manufacturers of narrow fabrics do not normally import fabric, but some may import substantial quantities of yarn to make narrow fabrics; they also do not import competitive narrow fabrics from their subsidiaries in other countries.

The International Market

International market profile

Quality is much more important in narrow fabrics than in many other textile products, especially in certain industrial uses where service life is so important. When narrow fabrics are incorporated into larger end-use products, such as zipper tapes in garments, it is important that the tape last at least as long as the garment.

Although the high quality of the U.S. product is an established fact in this country, those establishments desiring to expand their export trade must convince foreign purchasers of that quality. Products which are particularly dependent on consistently high quality include bandings used in machinery belts, safety belts, machine ribbons, strappings, tapes, seamless tubings, webbings, and wickings.

Attractiveness and fashion styling are more important than quality in uses where the function of the narrow fabric is primarily ornamental. Fashion styling is important in hat and apparel bandings, apparel belting, apparel ribbons, and trimmings. Price becomes the deciding factor in export competition whenever service life and attractiveness are less important.

U.S. exports

From 1976 to 1979, U.S. annual exports of nonelastic narrow fabrics were between 10 million and 11 million pounds and valued between $25 million and $30 million; however, in 1980, they increased to 25 million pounds with a value of $31 million (app. C. table 5). Lower unit prices were the main reason for the high exports in 1980; almost all types of narrow fabrics were exported at lower average prices per pound in 1980 than in any previous year during 1976-80 (table 5). In 1980, the large increase in quantity was attributable principally to expanded exports of tape closures and trimmings (which generally are lower priced than other narrow fabrics) to Canada, Mexico, Hong Kong, and the Netherlands. In value, the annual exports averaged from 8 to 11 percent of the shipments. Throughout the period, the exports were chiefly narrow fabrics of manmade fibers.

Tapes, especially closure tapes, are believed to be the most important types of narrow fabrics exported. These are generally followed by seamless tubings, especially woven types, and webbings. Other narrow fabrics exported in significant quantities include trimmings, bandings, machine ribbons, strappings, and beltings. No U.S. firm depends entirely on exports, but some narrow fabric firms export as much as 20 percent of their production.

Canada and Mexico have been the largest markets for U.S. exports of narrow fabrics in recent years. In 1980, these two countries imported over half of the quantity, 12.7 million pounds, and one-third of the value, $11.3 million. Other important markets in 1980 were Hong Kong, Venezuela, the Netherlands, West Germany, and the United Kingdom (table 5).

U.S. exports of nonelastic narrow fabrics predominate in Canada, Mexico, and Venezuela chiefly due to proximity, although all other U.S. export advantages may carry considerable significance. The United States is the second or third largest supplier of narrow fabrics to the Netherlands, West Germany, and the United Kingdom; it lags behind other European Community suppliers in these markets because of their proximity and the tariff preferences within the European Community itself. Although Hong Kong is the third largest export market for nonelastic narrow fabrics, the United States ranks behind Japan, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China in that market. The United States' disadvantages in this market are generally price and distance.

U.S. narrow fabric firms normally do not have separate divisions to promote or sell exports. In addition, few U.S. firms send their own sales people into the foreign markets. Their exports are generally handled by a resident representative in these markets who also merchandises other products besides narrow fabrics. Very little narrow fabric is shipped to independent trading firms based in the United States for eventual sale in overseas markets.

Appendix A

Part 4, Subpart A, Schedule 3, of the Tariff Schedules of the United States Annotated (1982) and Staged Rates of Duty

Explanation of the rates of duty applicable to narrow fabrics, as shown in this appendix:

The rates of duty in rate of duty column numbered 1 are most-favored-nation (MFN) rates, and are applicable to imported products from all countries except those Communist countries and areas enumerated in general headnote 3(f) of the TSUS. However, such rates would not apply to products of developing countries which are granted preferential tariff treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) or under the "LDDC" rate of duty column.

The rates of duty in rate of duty column "LDDC" are preferential rates (reflecting the full U.S. MTN concession rate for a particular item without staging) and are applicable to products of the least developed developing countries designated in general headnote 3(d) of the TSUS which are not granted duty-free treatment under the GSP. If no rate of duty is provided in the "LDDC" column for a particular item, the rate of duty provided in column numbered 1 applies.

The rates of duty in rate of duty column numbered 2 apply to imported products from those Communist countries and areas enumerated in general headnote 3(f) of the TSUS.

Duty-free treatment under GSP has been extended to several items covered by this summary. GSP, implemented by Executive Order No. 11888 of November 24, 1975, applies to merchandise imported on or after Jan. 1, 1976, and is scheduled to remain in effect until Jan. 4, 1985, unless modified by the President or terminated.

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C S P	Item	Stat. Suf-fix	Articles	Units of Quantity	Rates of Duty		
					1	1(b)(i)	2
			PART 4. - FABRICS OF SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION OR FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES; ARTICLES OF WADDING OR FELT; FISH NETS; MACHINE CLOTHING				
			Part 4 headnote:				
			1. This part covers certain textile fabrics and, in addition, certain other textile products. The provisions of subpart B of this part and the provisions for "fish netting and fishing nets" in subpart C hereof do not cover gauze and leno-woven fabrics. Woven textile fabrics not specially provided for in this part are provided for in part 3 of this schedule.				
			Subpart A. - Knit, Pile, Tufted, and Narrow Fabrics; Braids, and Elastic Fabrics				
			Subpart A headnotes:				
			1. This subpart provides for the named fabrics, braids, and elastic materials, when in the piece only. Any fabric described in this subpart and also in subpart B or C of this part is classifiable in the said subpart B or C. This subpart does not cover -- (i) braids suitable for making or ornamenting headwear (see part 1B of schedule 7); or (ii) rubber or plastics filaments (see part 1E of schedule 3 and part 12B of schedule 7).				
			2. For the purposes of the tariff schedules -- (a) the term "narrow fabrics" means (i) woven or knit fabrics, not over 12 inches in width, with fast edges (that is, with both edges made or treated to prevent the fabric from unraveling, by means of selvages, stitching, gumming, fusing, or simple hemming); or (ii) seamless woven or knit tubings which, when flattened, are not over 12 inches in width; or (iii) bias binding consisting of strips, not over 12 inches in width, cut on the bias from woven or knit fabrics and folded and creased on the edges;				

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GSP	Item	Stat. Suffix	Articles	Units of Quantity	Rates of Duty 1	LDDC	2
			(b) the term "elastic", as used to describe yarns, cordage, braids, and fabrics, means that such articles possess elasticity which is attributable in whole or in part to rubber.				
			3. Any article described in more than one superior heading of this subpart is classifiable under the last such heading in which it is described.				
			Knit fabrics:				
	345.10		Of vegetable fibers	.....	23.2% ad val.		45% ad val.
			Of cotton:				
		20	Circular knit (369)	Lb.			
		40	Other, including warp knit (369)	Lb.			
			Other:				
		65	Subject to cotton restraints (369)	Lb.			
		75	Subject to wool restraints (425)	Lb.			
		85	Subject to man-made fiber restraints (625)	Lb.			
		95	Other	Lb.			
	345.30		Of wool	.....	31¢ per lb. + 19.8% ad val.		65.5% ad val.
		20	Circular knit (425)	Lb.			
		40	Other, including warp knit (425)	Lb.			
	345.35		Of silk	.....	12.4% ad val.		55% ad val.
		05	Subject to cotton restraints (369)	Lb.			
		15	Subject to wool restraints (425)	Lb.			
		25	Subject to man-made fiber restraints (625)	Lb.			
		35	Other	Lb.			
	345.50		Of man-made fibers	.....	21¢ per lb. + 19% ad val.		113.5% ad val.
		11	Containing over 17% of wool by weight (625)	Lb.			
			Other:				
			Of cellulosic fibers:				
		15	Circular knit (625)	Lb.			
		18	Other, including warp knit (625)	Lb.			
			Of noncellulosic fibers:				
			Circular knit:				
			Double knit:				
		31	Of acrylic (625)	Lb.			
		33	Of nylon (625)	Lb.			
		35	Of polyester (625)	Lb.			
		37	Other (625)	Lb.			
			Other:				
		51	Of acrylic (625)	Lb.			
		53	Of nylon (625)	Lb.			
		55	Of polyester (625)	Lb.			
		57	Other (625)	Lb.			
			Other, including warp knit:				
		71	Of acrylic (625)	Lb.			
		73	Of nylon (625)	Lb.			
		75	Of polyester (625)	Lb.			
		77	Other (625)	Lb.			
	345.60	00	Other	Lb.	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	40% ad val.

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SCHEDULE 3. - TEXTILE FIBERS AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS
Part 4. - Fabrics of Special Construction or For Special Purposes; Articles of Wadding or Felt; Fish Nets; Machine Clothing

GSP	Item	Stat. Suffix	Articles	Units of Quantity	Rates of Duty 1	Rates of Duty LDDC	Rates of Duty 2
			Pile fabrics, etc. (con.):				
	346.56		Of silk		8% ad val.		70% ad val.
		05	Subject to cotton restraints (369)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		15	Subject to wool restraints (429)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		25	Subject to man-made fiber restraints (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		35	Other	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
	346.60		Of man-made fibers		12c per lb. + 24.1% ad val.		79.5% ad val.
		10	Corduroys (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		20	Velveteens (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		30	Terry fabrics (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
			Velvets:				
		45	Woven, under 48 inches in width, with cut warp pile, weighing less than 8 oz. per square yard (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		50	Other (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
		65	Other (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.			
	346.65	00	Other	Sq. yd.	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	40% ad val.
			Tufted fabrics, in which the pile or tuft was inserted or knotted into a pre-existing base, with the pile or tuft covering the entire surface, whether the pile or tuft is wholly or partly cut or is not cut:				
	346.70	00	Of cotton (320)	Sq. yd.v Lb.	16% ad val.		50% ad val.
	346.80	00	Of vegetable fibers, except cotton	Sq. yd..	5.7% ad val.	4.2% ad val.	50% ad val.
	346.82	00	Of wool (429)	Sq. yd.v Lb.	27c per lb. + 11.6% ad val.		58% ad val.
	346.86	00	Of silk	Sq. yd..	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	70% ad val.
	346.90	00	Of man-made fibers (626)	Sq. yd.v Lb.	5.5c per lb. + 11.6% ad val.		
	346.95	00	Other	Sq. yd..	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	40% ad val.
			Narrow fabrics:				
			Of vegetable fibers:				
	347.10	00	Pile ribbons, of cotton (369)	Lb.	18% ad val.		62.5% ad val.
			Seamless tubings, except wicking:				
	347.15	00	Of cotton (369)	Lb.	18% ad val.		35% ad val.
A	347.20	00	Other	Lb.	6.8% ad val.	4.7% ad val.	35% ad val.
			Wicking:				
	347.26	00	Of cotton (369)	Lb.	9.3% ad val.		30% ad val.
A	347.28	00	Other	Lb.	9.3% ad val.	5.8% ad val.	30% ad val.
A*	347.30	00	Webbing, of jute	Lb.	11% ad val.	5.6% ad val.	35% ad val.

Note: For explanation of the symbol "A" or "A*" in the column entitled "GSP", see general headnote 3(c).

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GSP	Item	Stat. Suffix	Articles	Units of Quantity	Rates of Duty 1	Rates of Duty LDDC	Rates of Duty 2
			Narrow fabrics (con.):				
			Of vegetable fibers (con.):				
			Other:				
	347.33		Of cotton	.....	12.8% ad val.		35% ad val.
		20	Typewriter and machine ribbons.(369)	Lb.			
		40	Zipper tapes.....(369)	Lb.			
		80	Other.....(369)	Lb.			
A	347.35	00	Other	Lb.....	6.6% ad val.	4.7% ad val.	35% ad val.
	347.40	00	Of wool.....(469)	Lb.....	31c per lb. + 9.6% ad val.		59% ad val.
			Of silk:				
	347.45	00	Pile ribbons	Lb.....	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	60% ad val.
	347.50	00	Other	Lb.....	6.8% ad val.	3% ad val.	65% ad val.
			Of man-made fibers:				
			Ribbons:				
	347.55	00	Pile.....(627)	Lb.....	12c per lb. + 10.8% ad val.		68.5% ad val.
	347.60		Other	.....	10c per lb. + 9.8% ad val.		76.5% ad val.
		20	Typewriter and machine ribbons.(627)	Lb.			
		40	Other.....(627)	Lb.			
	347.65	00	Seamless tubings.....(627)	Lb.....	10c per lb. + 10.5% ad val.		78% ad val.
			Other:				
			Of glass:				
	347.68	00	Not colored.....(627)	Lb.....	8.8% ad val.		50% ad val.
	347.69	00	Colored.....(627)	Lb.....	12.1% ad val.		60% ad val.
	347.70	00	Other.....(627)	Lb.....	10c per lb. + 9.1% ad val.		84% ad val.
A	347.72	00	Of metalized yarns	Lb.....	5.7% ad val.	4.2% ad val.	45% ad val.
A	347.75	00	Other	Lb.....	8% ad val.	5.3% ad val.	40% ad val.
			Braids not suitable for making or ornamenting headwear:				
	348.00		Tubular braids with a nonelastic core	.....	13.7% ad val.		60% ad val.
			Of man-made fibers:				
		65	Cable, rope, cord and twine: Measuring under 3/16 inch in diameter.....(669)	Lb.			
		75	Measuring 3/16 inch or over in diameter.....(669)	Lb.			
		80	Other.....(669)	Lb.			
		95	Other	Lb.			
	348.05		Other	.....	18.9% ad val.		90% ad val.
		10	Of cotton.....(369)	Lb.			
		30	Of vegetable fibers, except cotton	Lb.			
		40	Of wool.....(469)	Lb.			
		50	Of silk	Lb.			
			Of man-made fibers:				
		65	Cable, rope, cord and twine: Measuring under 3/16 inch in diameter.....(669)	Lb.			
		75	Measuring 3/16 inch or over in diameter.....(669)	Lb.			
		80	Other.....(669)	Lb.			
		90	Other	Lb.			

Note: For explanation of the symbol "A" or "A*" in the column entitled "GSP", see general headnote 3(c).

Nonelastic narrow fabrics: Pre-MTN rates and staged rate modifications, by TSUS items, 1980-87

TSUS item No.	Pre-MTN col. 1 rate of duty	Commodity description	Col. 1 rates of duty 1/ for articles entered on and after Jan. 1--							
			1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
		Narrow fabrics:								
		Of vegetable fibers:								
347.10	20%	Pile ribbons, of cotton--	20%	20%	18%	16.1%	14.1%	12.1%	10.2%	8.2%
		Seamless tubings, except wicking:								
347.15	20%	Of cotton	20%	20%	18%	16.1%	14.1%	12.1%	10.2%	8.2%
347.20	7%	Other	7%	7%	6.6%	6.2%	5.9%	5.5%	5.1%	4.7%
		Wicking:								
347.26	10%	Of cotton	10%	10%	9.3%	8.6%	7.9%	7.2%	6.5%	5.8%
347.28	10%	Other	10%	10%	9.3%	8.6%	7.9%	7.2%	6.5%	5.8%
347.30	14%	Webbing, of jute	14%	14%	11%	8%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%
		Other:								
347.33	13.3%	Of cotton	13.3%	13.3%	12.8%	12.2%	11.7%	11.1%	10.6%	10%
347.35	7%	Other	7%	7%	6.6%	6.2%	5.9%	5.5%	5.1%	4.7%
347.40	37.5¢ + 10%	Of wool	37.5¢ + 10%	37.5¢ + 10%	31¢ + 9.6%	25¢ + 9.2%	19¢ + 8.8%	12¢ + 8.3%	6¢ + 7.9%	7.5%
		Of silk:								
347.45	8.5%	Pile ribbons	8.5%	8.5%	8%	7.4%	6.9%	6.4%	5.8%	5.3%
347.50	7.5%	Other	7.5%	7.5%	6.8%	6%	5.3%	4.5%	3.8%	3%
		Of man-made fibers:								
		Ribbons:								
347.55	15¢ + 11%	Pile	15¢ + 11%	15¢ + 11%	12¢ + 10.8%	10¢ + 10.5%	7¢ + 10.3%	5¢ + 10%	2¢ + 9.8%	9.5%
347.60	12¢ + 10%	Other	12¢ + 10%	12¢ + 10%	10¢ + 9.8%	8¢ + 9.7%	6¢ + 9.5%	4¢ + 9.3%	2¢ + 9.2%	9%
347.65	12¢ + 11.25%	Seamless tubings	12¢ + 11.25%	12¢ + 11.25%	10¢ + 10.5%	8¢ + 9.8%	6¢ + 9.1%	4¢ + 8.4%	2¢ + 7.7%	7%
		Other:								
		Of glass:								
347.68	10.5%	Not colored	9.9%	9.4%	8.8%	8.3%	7.7%	7.1%	6.6%	6%
347.69	15%	Colored	14%	13.1%	12.1%	11.1%	10.1%	9.2%	8.2%	7.2%
347.70	12¢ + 9.5%	Other	12¢ + 9.5%	12¢ + 9.5%	10¢ + 9.1%	8¢ + 8.7%	6¢ + 8.3%	4¢ + 7.8%	2¢ + 7.4%	7%
347.72	6%	Of metallized yarns	6%	6%	5.7%	5.4%	5.1%	4.8%	4.5%	4.2%
347.75	8.5%	Other	8.5%	8.5%	8%	7.4%	6.9%	6.4%	5.8%	5.3%

1/ The symbol "%" indicates "percent ad valorem". The symbol "¢" indicates "cents per pound."

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Appendix B

Concordance of TSUS numbers, Schedule B numbers, SIC numbers, SITC numbers, and CCCN numbers

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Nonelastic narrow fabrics: TSUS numbers, Schedule B numbers, SIC numbers, SITC numbers, and CCCN numbers included in this commodity group

TSUS item No.	Schedule B No.	SIC No.	SITC No.	CCCN No.
347.10	347.0600	2241	655.22 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.15	347.0600	2241	655.22 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.20	347.7600	2299	655.29 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.26	347.0600	2241	657.72	59.14
347.28	347.7600	2299	657.72	59.14
347.30	347.7600	2299	655.29	58.05
347.33	347.0600	2241	655.22 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	58.06 (pt.)
			656.02 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.35	347.7600	2299	655.29 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.40	347.7600	2241	655.21 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	58.06 (pt.)
			656.02 (pt.)	59.14 (pt.)
			657.72 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.45	347.7600	2241	655.29 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.50	347.7600	2241	655.29 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	58.06 (pt.)
			656.02 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
347.55	347.5600	2241	655.10 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			655.23 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	
347.60	347.5600	2241	655.10 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			655.23 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	
347.65	347.5600	2241	655.10 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			655.23 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	
347.68	347.7600	2241	664.94	70.20B
347.69	347.7600	2241	664.94	70.20B
347.70	347.5600	2241	655.10 (pt.)	58.05 (pt.)
			655.23 (pt.)	58.06 (pt.)
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01 (pt.)
			656.02 (pt.)	
347.72	347.7600	2299	654.91	52.02
347.75	347.7600	2299	655.29 (pt.)	58.05
			656.01 (pt.)	60.01

Appendix C

Statistical Tables

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Table 1.--Nonelastic narrow fabrics: U.S. producers' shipments, exports of domestic merchandise, imports for consumption, and apparent consumption 1976-80

(In thousands of dollars)

Year	Producers' shipments	Exports	Imports	Apparent consumption	Ratio (percent) of imports to consumption
1976	1/ 263,584	30,537	13,259	246,306	5.4
1977	305,842	31,846	14,133	288,129	4.9
1978	327,850	25,928	16,725	318,647	5.2
1979	360,867	28,859	20,281	352,289	5.8
1980	357,554	30,769	19,447	346,232	5.6

1/ Partially estimated.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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Table 2.--Nonelastic narrow fabrics: U.S. producers' shipments, by major types, 1976-80

(In thousands of dollars)

Type	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Woven nonelastic narrow fabrics:					
Woven-edge ribbons	18,080	28,708	33,051	31,794	46,679
Woven labels	34,551	32,840	40,160	44,958	51,919
Tapes	68,861	82,647	82,162	88,028	87,437
Webbing	72,078	83,180	85,768	90,227	79,566
Other	45,014	48,116	54,233	70,760	55,153
Total	238,584	275,491	295,374	325,767	320,754
Other nonelastic narrow fabrics, except braided 1/	2/ 25,000	30,351	32,476	35,100	36,800
Total	263,584	305,842	327,850	360,867	357,554

1/ Mostly knit fabrics.
2/ Estimated.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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Table 3.--Nonelastic narrow fabrics: U.S. imports for consumption, by selected types, 1976-80

Type	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	Quantity (1,000 pounds)				
Pile ribbons:					
Of cotton	3	1/	1	4	1
Of silk	-	1/	1/	1	-
Of manmade fibers	78	58	73	55	46
Total	81	59	73	60	47
Seamless tubings:					
Of cotton	15	14	21	23	23
Of manmade fibers	17	16	23	18	49
Total	32	30	44	41	72
Wicking of vegetable fibers:					
Of cotton	6	5	3	11	9
Other	3	1	1/	4	13
Total	9	6	3	15	22
Typewriter and machine ribbons:					
Of cotton	8	44	1	5	1
Of manmade fibers	174	171	143	252	177
Total	182	215	144	257	178
Other narrow fabrics:					
Ribbons of manmade fibers	165	289	424	281	198
Jute webbing	2,381	1,992	1,880	1,258	2,175
Other	4,704	4,131	4,206	4,647	3,243
Total	7,250	6,412	6,510	6,186	5,616
Total	7,554	6,722	6,774	6,559	5,935
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Pile ribbons:					
Of cotton	5	4	9	3	29
Of silk	-	2/	2/	20	-
Of manmade fibers	998	807	969	932	865
Total	1,003	811	978	955	894
Seamless tubings:					
Of cotton	77	84	149	173	183
Of manmade fibers	95	101	172	171	209
Total	172	185	321	344	392

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table 3.--Nonelastic narrow fabrics: U.S. imports for consumption, by selected types, 1976-80--Continued

Type	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	Value (1,000 pounds)--Continued				
Wicking of vegetable fibers:					
Of cotton	15	18	9	101	84
Other	11	6	4	42	95
Total	26	24	13	143	179
Typewriter and machine ribbons:					
Of cotton	17	32	23	38	16
Of manmade fibers	1,070	1,014	1,061	2,203	1,631
Total	1,087	1,046	1,084	2,241	1,647
Other narrow fabrics:					
Ribbons of manmade fibers	1,256	2,102	3,208	2,182	2,496
Jute webbing	790	664	694	541	1,328
Other	8,925	9,301	10,427	13,875	12,511
Total	10,971	12,067	14,329	16,598	16,335
Total	13,259	14,133	16,725	20,281	19,447
	Unit value (per pound)				
Pile ribbons:					
Of cotton	$2.13	$12.79	$12.38	$0.93	$20.77
Of silk	-	10.73	18.50	16.31	-
Of manmade fibers	12.77	13.86	13.20	17.06	18.70
Average	12.38	13.75	13.40	15.92	19.02
Seamless tubings:					
Of cotton	5.10	6.13	7.23	7.51	7.94
Of manmade fibers	5.61	6.26	7.35	9.76	4.26
Average	5.38	6.17	7.30	8.39	5.44
Wicking of vegetable fibers:					
Of cotton	2.08	3.54	3.03	9.39	9.85
Other	3.30	11.61	10.03	10.71	7.23
Average	2.89	4.00	4.33	9.90	8.14
Typewriter and machine ribbons:					
Of cotton	2.13	.81	19.33	7.64	14.84
Of manmade fibers	6.16	5.97	7.41	8.74	9.24
Average	5.97	4.87	7.53	8.72	9.25
Other narrow fabrics:					
Ribbons of manmade fibers	5.38	7.15	7.57	7.76	12.60
Jute webbing	.33	.33	.37	.43	.61
Other	1.89	2.25	2.47	2.98	3.85
Average	1.51	1.88	2.20	2.68	2.91
Average	1.76	2.10	2.47	3.09	3.28

1/ Less than 500 pounds.
2/ Less than $500.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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Table 4.--Nonelastic narrow fabrics: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources, 1976-80

Source	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	Quantity (1,000 pounds)				
Hg Kong	3,355	3,113	2,920	3,030	1,533
Japan	644	581	848	700	522
Switzld	59	62	79	84	90
FR Germ	195	187	217	225	214
France	73	35	55	135	132
Italy	70	97	73	113	162
U King	166	60	82	56	83
India	2,035	1,622	1,623	988	2,024
All other	956	965	876	1,228	1,176
Total	7,554	6,722	6,774	6,559	5,935
	Value (1,000 dollars)				
Hg Kong	4,653	5,184	4,448	5,761	3,353
Japan	2,687	2,832	3,924	3,922	3,045
Switzld	832	969	1,487	1,575	1,907
FR Germ	1,437	1,472	1,206	1,574	1,794
France	479	432	682	1,436	1,726
Italy	441	651	546	1,322	1,459
U King	523	526	801	613	1,304
India	661	523	585	421	1,270
All other	1,546	1,544	3,046	3,657	3,590
Total	13,259	14,133	16,725	20,281	19,447
	Unit value (per pound)				
Hg Kong	$1.39	$1.67	$1.52	$1.90	$2.19
Japan	4.17	4.87	4.63	5.60	5.83
Switzld	14.04	15.70	18.79	18.69	21.29
FR Germ	7.37	7.88	5.56	6.99	8.40
France	6.53	12.33	12.38	10.62	13.12
Italy	6.27	6.69	7.52	11.66	9.02
U King	3.15	8.72	9.78	10.88	15.74
India	0.32	0.32	0.36	0.43	0.63
All other	1.62	1.60	3.48	2.98	3.05
Average	1.76	2.10	2.47	3.09	3.28

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

SUMMARIES OF TRADE AND TARIFF INFORMATION

USITC PUBLICATION 841

COMPLETE LIST OF SUMMARIES PUBLISHED TO DATE IN SCHEDULE 3

Control No.	Publication date	Title
3-4-1	Jan. 1978	Fish Netting and Fishing Nets of Textile Materials
3-6-2	Jan. 1978	Sweaters
3-6-3	Jan. 1978	Body-supporting Garments
3-3-4	Feb. 1978	Broadwoven Fabrics of Manmade Fibers
3-1-5	Mar. 1981	Raw Cotton
3-5-6	Mar. 1981	Floor Coverings of Textile Materials
3-6-7	Mar. 1981	Men's and Boys' Shirts
3-4-8	April 1981	Knit Fabrics
3-3, 4-9	April 1981	Broadwoven Fabrics of Wool
3-1-10	August 1981	Manmade Fibers and Filament Yarns
3-5-11	February 1981	Towels and Washcloths

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